

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /042 W

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R 140902Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1559

USFJ YOKOTA

USARGO

313TH AD KADENA

CAMP BUTLER

COMFLEACTS

FBIS OKINAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAHA 500

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PINR, JA

SUBJECT: FOREIGN RESIDENTS ILLEGALLY LIVING ON US BASES.

SUMMARY: THE OKINAWAN PRESS IS CAMPAIGNING AGAINST ALIENS

ALLEGEDLY LIVING ILLEGALLY ON AMERICAN BASES. SO FAR THE STATUS

OF FBIS UNDER THE SOFA HAS NOT BECOME THE ISSUE, BUT IF THE LEFTISTS

PERSIST, THE TRAIL UNFORTUNATELY LEADS LOGICALLY TO THAT. END SUMMARY

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE FROM FBIS COPY, THE OKINAWAN MEDIA IN THESE

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LAST SEVERAL DAYS HAS BEEN MAKING A MAJOR ISSUE OUT OF AN ALLEGEDLY

LARGE NUMBER OF AMERICANS AND THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS LIVING

ILLEGALLY ON AMERICAN BASES. APPARENTLY NEWSPAPER REPORTERS,

WITH THEIR NORMAL LEFTIST ZEAL TO UNCOVER STORIES DETRIMENTAL TO

THE AMERICAN PRESENCE, CHECKED THE REGISTRATION FILES AT THE VARIOUS

MUNICIPAL OFFICES FOR THE NAMES OF FOREIGNERS WHO REGISTERED AS

ALIENS BUT WHO GAVE ADDRESSES ON BASE. THEY CAME UP WITH A TOTAL

OF 198 (POSSIBLY DOUBLE COUNTING FBIS STAFF AND FAMILIES),

INCLUDING AMERICANS, CHINESE, FILIPINOS, ETC., AND EVEN ONE

ETHIOPIAN. THE PEPECTURAL LIAISON OFFICE, WHICH HANDLES BASE

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AFFAIRS, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THIS IS A DEPLORABLE SIITUATION AND

THEY ARE PROTESTING TO THE GOJ. DENIALS FROM OUR MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND FROM THE GOJ ARE NOTED, THE COMMENT BEING THAT QUARTERS ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY AND RIGOROUSLY CONTROLLED. THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE COMMENTED THAT MANY OF THESE ARE PROBABLY FRIENDS OR RELATIVES OF AMERICANS OR JUST RETIRED SERVICEMEN WHO TEMPORARILY STAYED ON THE BASES.

2. SO FAR THE THRUST OF THE MEDIA COMMENT HAS BEEN ALONG THE FAVORITE LEFTIST LINE THAT THE "BASES ARE THE SOURCE OF THE EVILS OF OKINAWA." THE ARTICLES INTIMATE THAT IT IS THESE ILLEGAL RESIDENTS

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ON BASE WHO ARE THE PUSHERS OF NARCOTICS AND THE DIVERTERS OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF PX GOODS ONTO THE LOCAL MARKET. EDITORIALS CLAIMED THAT THE JAPANESE PEOPLE SPEND HUGE AMOUNTS OF TAXES ON AMERICAN BASES WHICH ARE BEING USED IMPROPERLY. SOME OF THE ARTICLES HAVE MENTIONED FBIS, AND ONE TODAY RAISED IN PASSING THE ISSUE OF PX ACCESS BY RETIRED AMERICAN MILITARY. BUT SO FAR THEY HAVE NOT FOCUSED ON EITHER OF THOSE ISSUES WHICH INVOLVE DEBATABLE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE SOFA.

3. OUR CONCERN OF COURSE IS THAT PRESS ATTENTION MIGHT SHIFT ONTO THE ISSUE OF FBIS AND ITS PARTICULAR STATUS UNDER THE SOFA, PERHAPS LEADING TO SERIOUS COMPROMISE OF FBIS'S ABILITY TO CONTINUE TO PERFORM ITS IMPORTANT MISSION HERE. IN ACCORD WITH USFJ AND YOUR INSTRUCTIONS WE AND ALL THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES (AND ALSO THE DFAB) ARE REFRAINING FROM ANY COMMENT, LEAVING THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO HANDLE REPLIES. HOPEFULLY THE LOCAL PRESS WITH ITS USUAL LIMITED SPAN OF ATTENTION WILL FORGET THIS ISSUE. WITH TANAKA'S TROUBLES AND OUR PRESIDENT'S VISIT, THERE ARE OF COURSE MUCH GREATER MATTERS TO ABSORB LEFTIST ATTENTION AT THE MOMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, OUR JUDGMENT IS THAT EVEN IF THE ISSUE SUBSIDES FOR THE MOMENT THERE CONTINUES TO BE A REASONABLE CHANCE

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THAT THE LEFTISTS WILL PURSUE IT, NOW OR LATER, GOING ON PERHAPS TO THE SENSITIVE QUESTION OF THE STATUS OF FBIS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** MARR, PINR, JA, US  
**To:** TOKYO  
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